

which arrived here before daybreak this morning, to-night was ordered returned to its home station. Just when the Richmond Blues and Richmond Grays will return home has not been determined, but it appears certain that some of the militiamen will remain until Monday.

Following the confusion of yesterday afternoon and last night, the day passed quietly. Chief Cotton and Major Bowles established their headquarters in the office of the City Point Motor Company, on Dawson Street. Justice Lawrence Perry and Frank H. Britton also held court here, as the courthouse went down in the path of the flames.

The docked which confronted them was the lightest in many weeks, and only misdeemers were charged against those arraigned, indicating the absence of disorder during the fire.

THE FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' BANK

established temporary offices in a nearly complete brick building on Hopewell Street, near Dawson, which was out of the path of the flames.

THIS WILL BE PAY DAY AT THE DU PONT PLANT

To-morrow will be pay day at the Du Pont plant, where more than \$800,000 will be distributed among the employees. This will relieve any immediate need of Du Pont workers who suffered through the fire, and will leave only a limited number of people as objects of charity. Persons coming here from Petersburg expressed surprise that more Hopewell residents had not gone to that city to accept the accommodations which had hastily been prepared for them.

To-night the Norfolk and Western brought in a relief train with a large number of tents and equipment to shelter the homeless. This quota was added to by a supply sent down by the Petersburg Y. M. C. A.

Foremost business men of the place arranged for the mass-meeting, which was held in the tabernacle. Following organization the name of the Greater Hopewell Building Association was adopted, and the officers elected were as follows: May Neustader, president; Thomas Williams, secretary, and A. Harrison, treasurer.

NEARLY \$15,000 QUICKLY RAISED FOR SUFFERERS

Cash contributions were called for to aid any districts among the Hopewell sufferers, and nearly \$15,000 was soon donated. On Thursday night the Petersburg City Council appropriated \$5,000, and this sum headed the list. Other contributions were made as follows: Richard Lippes, \$2,000; Retail Merchants' Association of Petersburg, \$2,000; Max Neustader, \$2,500; Morris and M. Silverstein, \$2,000; Norfolk and Western Railway Company, \$500; Thalheimer Brothers, the Enterprise Corporation, Joseph Rosenberg, Vaughan Construction Company and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Banks, all \$100 each. Other contributions were made in sums ranging from \$10 to \$50.

B. A. Mikka, M. Silverstein and John Bullock were appointed as the building committee. Chief Cotton said that this committee would be recognized by the authorities, and that from this date on all buildings which go up in Hopewell must first have their plans approved by the committee.

A few hours after the mass-meeting adjourned the following printed notices were found posted in conspicuous places about the burned town:

"Public Notice! Free relief. All persons in need of food and shelter can obtain same in Petersburg, where they will be supplied by the Norfolk and Western Railway Company without charge. Headquarters for obtaining relief at the Y. M. C. A. of Petersburg. Tell your foreign friend." The notices were signed by the Relief Committee of Petersburg and Hopewell.

NO CHARGE IS MADE TO SUBSTITUTE PASSENGERS

At 1:15 o'clock to-night the Norfolk and Western ran a special train to Petersburg, making no charge to the passengers who came to take advantage of the company's charity.

The Du Pont Company is doing everything within its power to relieve any injury. For the time-being the married employees are permitted to bring their families within the plant boundaries & & buildings. The mess of the soldiers & & sailors being supplied by the gunpowder manufacturers.

Though the town is in desolation and lies in a great mass of still-smoldering ashes, the progressive spirit of Hopewell has already made itself manifest. During the day men, who just a few hours before had been considering prosperous business houses appeared on the streets, which were not closed by the troops, and set up stands where articles of all sorts, in United Supply, might be purchased. Haste constructed lunch counters appeared to be the favorite occupation. The diners of "hot dogs" did a hand-to-hand business.

Many visitors came to view the remains of the wrecked town. Most of these journeyed here in motors from Petersburg, mostly arriving every few minutes.

Business men were busy making plans for rebuilding their ruined buildings, while many gave up contracts and placed orders for necessary materials.

As night began to fall most people seemed to have left, though no less than 80 automobiles and other vehicles rapidly passed through those thoroughfares which had not been cleared, closed, and pedestrians hurried in every direction, an unusually animated scene was presented. Soldiers doing guard duty at intersections of streets found that they had their hands full in performing the duties which in the cities, are left to the trade policemen.

REMARKABLE FEW ACCIDENTS ARE REPORTED

Chief Cotton said that there had been remarkably few accidents reported, and those which did occur were of minor importance.

As far as could be learned, only one person was injured. Alexander Zacharias, who was caught beneath a wall when it fell, his drug store collapsed. He suffered broken legs and internal injuries. He was removed to Petersburg Hospital, in Du Pont City, where his condition was reported to be serious.

There were many who tumors set about this Thursday night of accidents and fatalities.

"I have found that there is absolutely no truth in the report that a negro was lynched by a mob which was caught in the act of looting," Chief Cotton said. "I have been unable to find any trace of the incident or any evidence of the man's body. It is simply a story without any foundation, in fact, he declared."

Another report to the effect that a negro was being held within the Du Pont plant, and was being held in the company's prison, was characterized by Superintendent Alton, who said as a complete fabrication.

The fire also gave occasion for numerous other reports, which, when traced down, were found to be baseless.

At the Du Pont plant life goes on

as usual. On yesterday afternoon only was work suspended. To-day the usual routine was in progress, the three shifts reporting for duty at the customary hours. The usual trains are carrying the men to and from Petersburg. Within the company's boundaries there is not a sign of the confusion which Hopewell stands.

SOLDIERS IN HOPEWELL, HAVING NO EASY TIME

The soldiers on duty in Hopewell find that they are having no easy time. "We got down here last night at 8 o'clock, and I haven't had a chance to close my eyes yet," one member of the Richmond Blues said. "I added that most of the other militiamen had undergone the same hardship. No complaint was made of the food supplied them.

Since their arrival the troops have been steadily patrolling the wasted district. No one is allowed to pass their lines without a written order signed by Chief of Police Cotton or Major Bowles. Chief Cotton has twenty-four officers on duty, and they are cooperating with the soldiers in guarding the property.

Though there were instances where people endeavored to pass the sentries without permits, they were easily prevented from doing so. At no time was there any indication of threatened violence.

The next morning disclosed Hopewell rising from its ashes. The ring of the hammer and the sound of the saw greeted the break of day. The Norfolk and Western Railroad station, one of the few structures burned to the ground the night before, was in course of reconstruction. Before the sun creased the horizon the new passenger and freight station was 25 per cent completed. When darkness compelled the workmen to cease their labor the structure was 50 per cent completed.

This was but one of the signs denoting that the spirit of the Wonder City had survived the fire test which specially became manifest.

It was a day of events in Hopewell.

The men who made and are now remaking the town are apparently unbroken in the aphorism, "God helps those who help themselves." Early in the day prominent citizens formed the Hopewell relief committee. Forthwith the committee called a mass-meeting and called for subscriptions to a fund to be used for the alleviation of suffering in that section. The members of the community who had been without permits, they were easily prevented from doing so. At no time was there any indication of threatened violence.

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